

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11, 13-18, and 20-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the Office Action of February 25, 2005, Claims 1-11, 13-18, and 20-21 were rejected under the separate written description and enablement requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. However, the Examiner's answer mailed February 1, 2006, indicated that the rejection under the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph has been withdrawn and only the rejection of the claims under the written description stands.

In view of this indication, independent Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to recite that a coating material coats fibers in a portion of a fibrous material over a thickness of between 30 and 50 nm, which is comparable to a mean size of particles of at least partly crystallized titanium oxide in anatase form. The claim amendments find support in the specification at page 14, lines 11-12, at page 14, lines 35-36, and at page 15, lines 23-24. No new matter has been added.

In this regard, it is noted that the Examiner's answer of February 1, 2006, indicated in the Response to Arguments section on page 4, that the claims compare the crystallites with the coating material instead of comparing the particles with the coating material. Thus, it is believed that the present amendments are in line with the indication noted above in the Examiner's answer.

Thus, it is believed that the rejections of the Office Action of February 25, 2005 are overcome and this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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